

Hours of Operation: 6:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m., year-round

For Further Information, Contact: Big Hill Pond State Park 1435 John Howell Road / Pocahontas, TN 38061 / Phone (731) 645-7967

Or Contact: Tennessee State Parks / 401 Church St., 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Nashville, TN 37243 / Phone (888) 867-2757 / www.tnstateparks.com

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is committed to principles of equal opportunity, equal access and affirmative action. Confact the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation EEO/AA coordinator at (888) 867-2757 or the ADA Coordinator at (6/3) 532-0059 for further information. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service at (800) 848-0298.

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### Big Hill Pond State Park

lies in the southwestern part of McNairy County and encompasses approximately 5,000 acres of magnificent timberland and



hard wood bottomland. Cypress Creek and Tuscumbia River border the property. Several oxbow lakes and slough add to the waterway. The flood plain adjacent to both the Tuscumbia River and Cypress Creek contains small oxbows and slough areas which are desirable habitat for waterfowl, wildlife, and fish.

Historical significance

The Park derives its name from Big Hill Pond which was created in 1853 when dirt was scooped from a borrow pit to build a levee across the Tuscumbia River and Cypress Creek bottoms for the Memphis to Charleston Railroad. Over the years, a great stand of Cypress trees has grown in and around the 35-acre pond. Most visitors and fisherman prefer to walk up the tracks about one half mile to access the pond.

Camping

The campground has 30 developed campsites with tables and grills and a modern bathhouse with hot showers. The campground does not have any hookups and there is no dump station in the campground. Primitive camping is available for scout groups by special arrangement.

## Picnic Area and Pavilion

The picnic area has 22 tables, grills and a small shelter with 8 tables. The restroom is adjacent. The pavilion is a first-come first-serve basis and is ADA accessible.

Boating

There is one boat ramp onto Travis MaNatt Lake. Only electric trolling motors are allowed, outboard motors are not allowed.

# Bike/Horse Trails

Bike and horse riding is permitted on approximately 14 miles of trails. These trails are shared by horseback and bike riders. Riders must stay on red trails and fire roads. Most fire roads are double-back roads. Riders are not allowed on hiking trails or front and back of lake dam. Riders must observe park rules and regulations while on vehicle roads.

Fishing

Travis McNatt Lake is a spring fed lake that is 165 acres large. The lake is available year round and a typical catch could be bass, bream, and catfish. A valid State of Tennessee fishing license is required. TWRA rules and regulations apply

Hiking

Thirty miles of overnight and day use trails with four backpack trail shelters can be found on the park. Five miles of hiking trail and two shelters lies south of the railroad. This is within our hunting area. Trail map available upon request.

Planned Programs

The park offers a variety of programs upon request for all ages, small or large groups of any age welcome. Some programs offered guided hikes, local flora and fauna, and history of the parks are some examples. The ranger can tailor your individual program request.

Nearby Attractions

- Davis Bridge Battlefield, Pocahontas, TN, 3 miles
- Shiloh National Military Park, 28 miles
- Buford Pussor Museum, Adamsville TN,
- Historic Corinth, MS, 25 Miles

- Other Nearby State Parks
  Pickwick Landing State Park, 32 miles
  - Chickasaw State Park, 33 miles
  - Pinson Mounds State Archaeological Park, 39 miles

# Annual Events

Bluegrass Music Festival, first weekend of May and second weekend of October

## Other Park Attractions

- The Boardwalk and Dismal Swamp eight tenths (.8) of a mile long through scenic Dismal Swamp.
- Observation tower- 70 feet tall, this refurbished fire tower offers a panoramic view of Travis McNatt Lake and Dismal Swamp.
- Civil War Earthworks-railroad guard post built by union soldiers.